

Reply to Office Action of August 3, 2007

Scott POWELL
Appl. No. 10/786,362

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 8-10, 12-14, 16-18 and 22-30 are pending in the application, with claims 8-10, 12 and 16 being the independent claims.

Claims 1-7, 11, 15 and 19-21 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. New claims 22-30 are sought to be added. Support for new claims 22-30 is found, for example, in original claims 4-6.

These amendments do not necessitate further search or consideration by the Examiner as they merely incorporate originally pending claim 1 into claims indicated as being allowable by the Examiner. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Allowed subject matter

Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 16-18 with appreciation.

Claims 8-10 and 12-14 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claim 1. Without acquiescing to the propriety of the rejection of claim 1, claims 8-10 and 12 have been re-written in independent form by the above amendment including the limitations of their base claim and should now be in condition for allowance. Claims 13 and 14 depend from the new independent claim 12 and are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 12, and further in view of their independent features.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

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Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 5-6, 7, 11, 15, 19 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. US 2004/0128696 to Bhaskaran et al. (hereinafter "Bhaskaran").

Although Applicant continues to believe there are technical differences between the previously pending claims and the applied reference, Claims 1, 5-6, 7, 11, 15, 19 and 21 have been canceled for other reasons, and to expedite prosecution. Thus, Applicant believes the rejection has been rendered moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Bhaskaran in view of U.S. Publication No. US 2002/0196766 to Hwang et al. (hereinafter "Hwang"). Claims 4 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Bhaskaran in view of the alleged admitted prior art (hereinafter "APA") (although the Examiner states claims 4 and 19 are rejected in paragraph 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner alleged claim 20 is rejected in the body of this rejection, so Applicant assumes claims 4 and 20 were meant to be stated in paragraph 5). For the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Although Applicant continues to believe there are technical differences between the previously pending claims and the applied reference, Claims 2-4, 19 and 20 have been canceled for other reasons, and to expedite prosecution. Thus, Applicant believes the rejection has been rendered moot.

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New claims

New claims 22-30 depend from one of independent claims 8-10 and are also patentable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend, and further in view of their respective features. Applicant requests that these claims be passed to allowance.

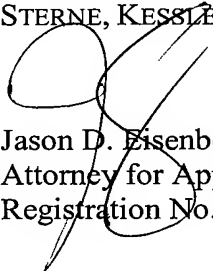
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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